



# News Release

## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

**437th AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**  
102 East Hill Blvd., Rm. 223, Charleston AFB, S.C. 29404-5154  
Phone: (843) 963-5608, 5588 or 5589 Fax (843) 963-5604

**PAO email:** edmund.memi@charleston.af.mil  
After duty hours, call the base operator or  
command post (963-2531) & ask for a PA rep

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### **Holocaust survivors remind us to never forget**

**CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE, S.C.** -- To witness unspeakable cruelty, starvation, severe cold, disease and numerous other injustices and to prevent it from ever happening again is part of the message by two Nazi concentration camp survivors who will speak at a Holocaust commemoration service May 2 at noon in the base chapel. News media member are invited to attend this event.

Pincus Kolender and Joe Engel were just teenagers when they were sent to Auschwitz in "cattle cars" in 1943 and 1942 respectively until they were liberated by American and Russian forces in 1945.

Approximately 11 million people were persecuted by the Nazis, of which 6 million were Jews. The Nazis had 27 registered "death camps" or concentration camps from 1939 to 1945.

Joe Engel grew up under Nazi oppression in Poland. In 1942, at the age of 15, he was ripped from his family and sent to Auschwitz. Engel is one of three who survived out of his family of 19. Kolender was captured by the Germans and is the sole survivor of five.

The Charleston ceremony is part of the Days of Remembrance held throughout the nation annually. This year's theme is "remembering the past for the sake of the future."

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**NOTE TO THE EDITOR:** *Interviews are available with the holocaust survivors as well as with base officials involved in setting up the ceremony. News media interested in attending should contact Public Affairs at 963-5536. News media are asked to be at the Dorchester Road gate not later than 11:45 a.m. on May 2. There will be a reception in the Chapel following this service. A schedule of events is attached.*